



VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE ABSTRACT:

The abstract has been amended as follows:

A piezoelectric actuator comprises a plurality of stacked piezoelectric elements for undergoing expansion/contraction movement to vibrationally drive the piezoelectric elements [in a preselected mode of vibration] in accordance with a driving signal applied thereto. [At least one] Each of the piezoelectric elements has the same [a] thickness in a stacking direction of the [which differs from that of at least one of the other] piezoelectric elements [in accordance with the preselected mode of vibration].

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Paragraph beginning at line 20 of page 21 has been amended as follows:

The piezoelectric actuator 2 is substantially comprised of a first group of six rectangular piezoelectric elements 21a, 21b, 21c, 21d, 21e and 21f integrally arranged in the longitudinal direction to form one rectangular element, a second group of twelve rectangular piezoelectric elements 22a, 22b, 22c, 22d, 22e, 22f, 22g, 22h, 22i, 22j, 22k and 22l

integrally stacked on the top surfaces of the six piezoelectric elements 21a through 21f having a length in the longitudinal direction which is one half of that of the piezoelectric elements 21a through 21f, a third group of six piezoelectric elements 23a, 23b, 23c, 23d, 23e and 23f having the same configuration as the piezoelectric elements 21a through 21f integrally stacked on the bottom surfaces of the piezoelectric elements 21a through 21f, and a fourth group of twelve rectangular piezoelectric elements 24a, 24b, 24c, 24d, 24e, 24f, 24g, 24h, 24i, 24j, 24k and 24l having the same configuration as the piezoelectric elements 22a through 22l integrally stacked on the bottom surfaces of the six piezoelectric elements 23a through 23f. One end of the element is a fixed end, and the other is a free end.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 2-4 and 21-28 have been canceled without prejudice or admission and subject to applicants' right to file a continuing application to pursue the subject matter of the these claims.

Claim 1 has been amended as follows:

1. (Thrice Amended) A piezoelectric actuator comprising: a plurality of stacked piezoelectric elements for

undergoing expansion/contraction movement to vibrationally drive the piezoelectric elements [in a preselected mode of vibration] in accordance with a driving signal applied thereto, each [at least one] of the piezoelectric elements having [a] the same thickness in a stacking direction of the [which differs from that of at least one of the other] piezoelectric elements [in accordance with the preselected mode of vibration].